

Enriching Lives



1055 Wilshire Boulevard  
Suite 800  
Los Angeles, CA 90017  
Tel 213.202.5858  
Fax 213.580.0017  
www.lacountyarts.org

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December 15, 2011

TO: Supervisor Gloria Molina  
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FROM: Laura Zucker, Executive Director, Arts Commission 

SUBJECT: FY 10-11 Civic Art Program Annual Report

On December 7, 2004, your Board adopted the County's Civic Art Policy. The policy establishes that a 1% civic art allocation be applied to eligible capital projects approved by your Board.

The policy specifies that an annual Civic Art Report be submitted to your Board. This report details Civic Art Program activities for FY 10-11. Included are completed and ongoing civic art projects, progress on documenting County-owned artworks, technical assistance for artists residing in Los Angeles County and public information and outreach activities.

Please contact me should you have any questions about these materials or the program in general.



Enriching Lives



# LOS ANGELES COUNTY ARTS COMMISSION

## CIVIC ART PROGRAM ANNUAL REPORT

COMPLETED AND ACTIVE PROJECTS  
2010-11  
PENDING FUTURE PROJECTS

December 12, 2011

**Los Angeles County Arts Commission  
1055 Wilshire Boulevard, Suite 800  
Los Angeles, CA 90017**



Cliff Garten, *Elevations (1)*, 2011  
 Aluminum and Venetian plaster. 7'x7' and 22'x12'  
 Martin Luther King, Jr. Center for Public Health  
 Photo credit © Patrick McElhenney

### **Civic Art Committee Members**

Hope Warschaw, Chair  
 Phoebe Beasley  
 Tomas Benitez  
 Ollie Blanning  
 Peter Lesnik

### **Civic Art Program Staff**

Margaret Bruning, Director of Civic Art  
 Letitia Fernandez Ivins, Assistant Director of Civic Art  
 Rebecca Ansert, Project Manager  
 Rebecca Banyas, Project Manager  
 Jen Gorman, Civic Art Coordinator  
 Clare Haggarty, Collections Manager  
 Erin Harkey, Project Manager

The following staff also served during the period of this report:

Greg Esser, Director of Civic Art  
 Carrie Brown, Project Manager  
 Alice Schock, Collections Manager

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## **Introduction**

The Los Angeles County Arts Commission's Civic Art Program provides leadership in the development of high quality civic spaces by integrating the work of artists into the planning, design and construction of Los Angeles County infrastructure and facilities. The Civic Art Program encourages innovative approaches to civic art and provides access to artistic experiences of the highest caliber to residents and visitors of Los Angeles County. The Civic Art Program also provides educational resources and ensures stewardship to foster broad public access to artwork owned by Los Angeles County. The Civic Art Program has developed and maintains all of the inventory and records for County owned civic artwork.

The Civic Art Program was established by the Board of Supervisors on December 7, 2004 and the first project funding under the policy was initiated in 2006. This document outlines accomplishments of the Civic Art Program for the Fiscal Year 2010-11.

## **Revisions to Civic Art Procedures**

The Board adopted revisions to the Civic Art Procedures in October 2010 clarifying the Civic Art Program's role in the capital projects planning process, detailing the options for artist selection, and elaborating on the art accession and de-accession process.

## **Project Management**

During the past fiscal year, nine new civic art projects were initiated. A total of **34** projects were actively managed during the fiscal year. The completion of six civic art projects this fiscal year brings the total to **44** civic art projects that have been completed since the program was established in 2004.

Projects have been managed in each of the five Supervisorial Districts and in partnership with the Department of Public Works, the Community Development Commission and twelve different County departments.

## **Commissioning Civic Artists**

The goal of the Civic Art Program is to commission the highest quality site-specific artwork for each new project location. For each new commission, the approach to civic art is developed and artists are selected with input from various stakeholders including Board Offices, departments, the Department of Public Works and Community Development Commission, community members and arts professionals.

Through the Civic Art Program, the Los Angeles County Arts Commission works directly with individual visual artists and design professionals. During the 2010-11 Fiscal Year, program staff reviewed over **750** artist applications (triple the number from the previous year), and served **399** artists (double the number from the previous year) through technical assistance workshops and outreach efforts. The number of artists notified regarding Civic Art Program opportunities by email was **5,213**.

The Civic Art Program's Pre-Qualified Artist List is vetted on a biannual basis by a panel of arts professionals and is due to be refreshed in Fiscal Year 2011-12. During Fiscal Year 2010-11, the program distributed multiple calls to this list and utilized the list exclusively for one direct selection.

Over the past year, the program has placed a greater emphasis on recruiting local arts professionals to serve on artist selection panels in an effort to improve artistic outcomes that align with the program's guiding principles of high quality, innovation, site-specificity, civic engagement and transformation. Project managers engaged **15** artists, curators, designers, professors and fellow public art administrators to participate in the artist interview and selection process. This has resulted in the selection of **10** artists new to the program who bring a strong studio practice, fresh perspective and high potential to become seasoned public artists.

Ten artists were commissioned for civic art projects for the first time during the fiscal year. Of those artists, **9**, or 90%, live and/or work in Los Angeles County.

**Fiscal Year 2010-11 Program Budget Summary**

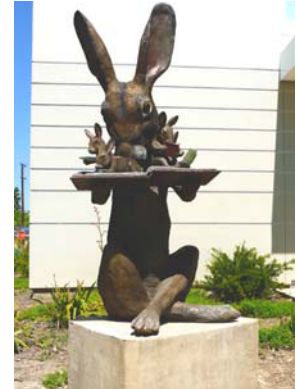
Total Number of Projects Substantially Completed	6
Total Number of Projects Underway	28
Total Number of New Projects Initiated	9
Total Number of Civic Art Projects Managed During Fiscal Year 2010-11	34
Total Number of Pending Future Projects	23

For additional information on current projects, please visit [www.lacountyarts.org/civicart.htm](http://www.lacountyarts.org/civicart.htm)

## Completed Projects Fiscal Year 2010-11

The following six civic art projects were substantially completed by the Arts Commission during Fiscal Year 2010-11 and have been accessioned into the County Collection. For additional information on completed and active projects, please visit [www.lacountyarts.org/civicart.htm](http://www.lacountyarts.org/civicart.htm).

**Project Name** Sorensen Library  
**Address** 11405 Rose Hedge Dr.  
Whittier, CA 90606  
**District** First  
**Department** Public Library  
**CP Number** CDC  
**Civic Art Budg** \$65,000



**Description** The bronze sculpture, titled "Fertile Minds" by artist Gerald Heffernon greets visitors to the new Sorensen Library. These realistic, but playful, Sorensen rabbits are reading and, like many of their human counterparts, they show generational differences and personal preferences. The nearly six-foot-tall adult rabbit reads a book. While most of the offspring are glued to electronic devices, one is enthralled by an old fashioned hardback copy. All share a passion for learning.

**Project Name** John Anson Ford Theatres Signage Project  
**Address** 2580 E. Cahuenga Blvd.  
Hollywood, CA 90068  
**District** Third  
**Department** Parks and Recreation  
**CP Number** N/A  
**Civic Art Budg** \$80,000



**Description** Design firm Sussman/Prezja created a series of unique wayfinding signs for the Ford Theatres. Signs are located throughout the grounds to help guide theatre-goers. The final design is contemporary while harkening back to the building's ancient Judaic style of architecture.

**Project Name** San Pedro Community and Senior Services Center  
**Address** 769 W. Third St.  
San Pedro, CA 90731  
**District** Fourth  
**Department** Community and Senior Services  
**CP Number** 87001  
**Civic Art Budg** \$13,800



**Description** "San Pedro Reflections" by Los Angeles artist Carlos Callejo is a 60-foot-long mural on the new addition to the San Pedro Service Center. The artist describes the mural as "a combination of the history of San Pedro with what the center represents." Callejo creates art to promote community interaction and he believes the theme of the artwork should be less about his singular interpretation of San Pedro and more about the many interpretations of the people who live here. Therefore, Callejo spent time at the center talking to community members. Based on their input, he included iconic images of San Pedro such as the Vincent Thomas Bridge, cannery workers, the Angel's Gate Lighthouse and the Port of LA and its workers. The mural also features a woman dancing accompanied by a man playing guitar to reflect the center's popular dance classes.

**Project Name** Fire Station 156  
**Address** 24525 W. Copper Hill Dr.  
Santa Clarita, CA 91390  
**District** Fifth  
**Department** Fire  
**CP Number** 70973  
**Civic Art Budg** \$172,000



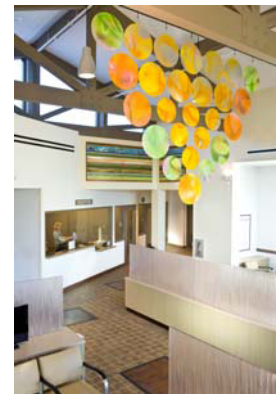
**Description** Artist Matt Dehaemers designed a fire pit for the station's exterior courtyard. The surface is richly colored and patterned in lithocrete and the pit is a carved-out boulder from a local quarry. Artist Eric Powell designed a set of custom laser-cut steel gates, based on an aerial view of the neighborhood streets.

**Project Name** Lancaster Animal Shelter Expansion  
**Address** 5210 West Ave. I  
Lancaster, CA 93536  
**District** Fifth  
**Department** Animal Care and Control  
**CP Number** 77560, 77537  
**Civic Art Budg** \$32,000



**Description** Artist Jose Antonio Aguirre designed artwork for the exterior of several buildings on the Animal Shelter campus. Fabricated in Venetian glass mosaic with the help of local youth, the artwork is inspired by former shelter animals that have had successful adoptions and promotes the philosophy of the Department of Animal Care and Control. Aguirre used the Hollywood Walk of Fame iconography with permission from the Hollywood Chamber of Commerce.

**Project Name** Olive View-UCLA Psychiatric Urgent Care Center  
**Address** 14445 Olive View Dr.  
Sylmar, CA 91342  
**District** Fifth  
**Department** Mental Health  
**CP Number** 69545  
**Civic Art Budg** \$71,000

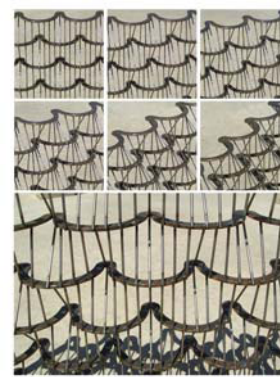


**Description** Painter and sculptor Amy Trachtenberg and landscape architect Jeffrey Miller created four atmospheric artworks for the Olive View Center. Concrete stepping stones embedded with conjoining circles are at the entrance of the facility. Suspended from the waiting area ceiling are 26 hand-painted disks with leaf patterns, recalling the name "Sylmar" which means "sea of trees." Nearby an abstract painting draws from colors, patterns and variations found in nature. Running down one side of the center's open-air courtyard is "The Horizon Sliver," a series of multi-colored polycarbonate panels casting soft, colored light into the space.

## Active Projects Fiscal Year 2010-11

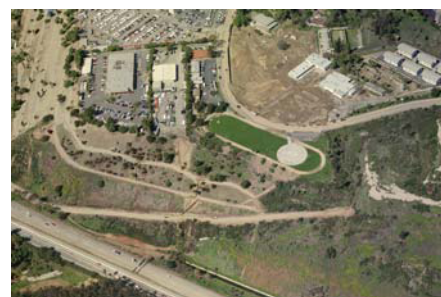
The following 28 civic art projects were actively managed by the Arts Commission during Fiscal Year 2010-11 and will be completed in a future fiscal year. Permanent civic art projects often take two to five years from inception to completion, as work is coordinated with the community, design team members (architects, engineers, landscape architects), and authorizers to ensure high quality, low maintenance art.

**Project Name** 4th Avenue Park  
**Address** 553 S. 4th Ave.  
La Puente, CA 91746  
**District** First  
**Department** Parks and Recreation  
**CP Number** CDC  
**Civic Art Budget** \$107,551



**Description** Artist Al Price designed a sculpture to reflect the equestrian interests of the Avocado Heights community. The 22 powder-coated steel panels are designed to custom fit to the inner and outer radius of a bridge serving as a guardrail. Each panel is composed of 9 horizontal layers of water-jet cut steel plate, with individual dimensions similar to a horseshoe, that are attached to each other by vertical "stripes" of steel rods.

**Project Name** Biscailuz Center Refurbishment  
**Address** 1060 N. Eastern Ave.  
Los Angeles, CA 90063  
**District** First  
**Department** Sheriff  
**CP Number** 86801  
**Civic Art Budget** \$188,000



**Description** The Sheriff Training Academy will be relocated from its current site in South Whittier to Eastern Avenue Hill. An artist or artist team will be commissioned to reinterpret an existing Sheriff memorial to those fallen in the line of duty for the new site. The artwork will be located at the new campus amphitheatre and will serve as an anchor for the outdoor site and a backdrop for ceremonies.

**Project Name** Bob Hope Patriotic Hall Refurbishment  
**Address** 1816 S. Figueroa St.  
Los Angeles, CA 90015  
**District** First  
**Department** Military and Veteran Affairs  
**CP Number** 86491  
**Civic Art Budget** \$285,000



**Description** Renowned Los Angeles muralist Kent Twitchell is painting three photo-realistic murals on the interior of Bob Hope Patriotic Hall. The large-scale murals (approximately 20 feet high x 12 feet wide each) honor the original murals by Helen Lundeburg painted in Patriotic Hall during the Works Progress Administration in 1942. Nearly all of Twitchell's models are veterans.

**Project Name** Coroner Biological Annex  
**Address** Marengo St. and N. Mission Rd.  
Los Angeles, CA 90033  
**District** First  
**Department** Coroner  
**CP Number** 77354  
**Civic Art Budget** \$125,000



**Description** Artist Erin Shie Palmer designed a meditative garden in a quiet exterior space adjacent to the new crypt. Developed in collaboration with the landscape architect, Shie Palmer integrated paths and seating, art elements and vegetation that offer staff and visitors an outdoor respite from the intense activities inside the Annex. Los Angeles-based artist John O'Brien will fabricate and install the artwork.



**Project Name** Eastern Avenue Hill Complex  
**Address** 1100 N. Eastern Ave.  
Los Angeles, CA 90063  
**District** First  
**Department** Public Health  
**CP Number** 86970  
**Civic Art Budget** \$170,000



**Description** Artists Sandra de la Loza and Arturo Romo will use a combination of plant materials and stone sculpture that recall Mesoamerican culture and architecture. The artists' approach is to create a monumental work that "pays tribute to the resilience and persistence of the local residents' cultural heritage." An additional art element to be developed includes a fence or wall at the base of the hill. The artists will hold a community meeting in December 2012.

**Project Name** Hall of Justice Repair and Reuse  
**Address** 211 W. Temple St.  
Los Angeles, CA 90012  
**District** First  
**Department** Sheriff  
**CP Number** 86630  
**Civic Art Budget** \$1,000,000



**Description** The Hall of Justice, built in 1924, will undergo its first renovation since its closure in 1994 following the Northridge earthquake. The Arts Commission and DPW are exploring art opportunities for this major project. A planning meeting with internal stakeholders, including representatives from the CEO, the District Attorney, the Sheriff, the Department of Public Works and historic architects, was held in October 2011.

**Project Name** Pico Rivera Library  
**Address** 9001 Mines Ave.  
Pico Rivera, CA 90660  
**District** First  
**Department** Public Library  
**CP Number** CDC  
**Civic Art Budget** \$166,251



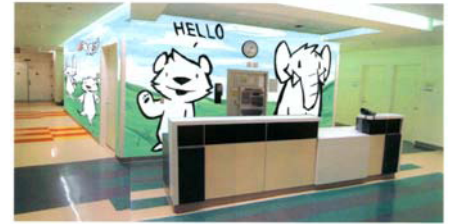
**Description** Artist Rebeca Méndez has been commissioned to create a unique artwork that engages the community and harmonizes with the new Pico Rivera Library's architecture. This project is in the design phase and public engagement is to be determined.

**Project Name** San Angelo Multi-Purpose Center  
**Address** 245 San Angelo Dr.  
La Puente, CA 91746  
**District** First  
**Department** Parks and Recreation  
**CP Number** CDC  
**Civic Art Budget** \$37,000



**Description** This project is Los Angeles-based artist Mara Lonner's first permanent civic art commission. She has worked closely with the committee, in particular the project architect, to design lasercut steel art panels to be mounted on the south wall of the building. Three hollow bronze flowers will blossom from the two dimensional panels. The back of the artwork will be coated with a florescent paint to create a halo glow, adding to the dynamic cast shadows of the patterned pieces.

**Project Name** The Art of Elysium Donation  
**Address** LAC+USC Medical Center, 1200 N. State St.  
Los Angeles, CA 90033  
**District** First  
**Department** Health Services  
**CP Number** n/a  
**Civic Art Budget** \$0



**Description** Murals and portable artworks by established contemporary artists will be donated for installation throughout the 8th floor pediatric wing as part of The Art of Elysium's Visual Imagery and Environmental Wellness (VIEW) Program. The 15-year-old program is dedicated to creating healing, cheerful environments for critically ill children through visual art as well as theater, film, comedy, writing and music. This project is being administered through the Arts Commission's Gifts and Loans program.

**Project Name** Alondra Park Pool and Skate Park  
**Address** 3580 W. Manhattan Beach Blvd.  
Lawndale, CA 90260  
**District** Second  
**Department** Parks and Recreation  
**CP Number** 86749  
**Civic Art Budget** \$130,000



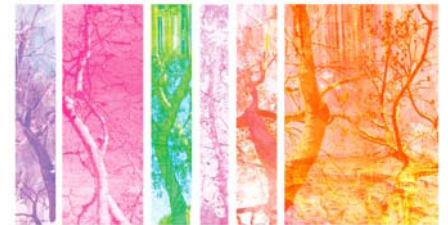
**Description** Artists Kipp Kobayashi and Marta Perlas have designed a paving pattern that will be sandblasted into the surface of the new skatepark and pool deck. The blue stained pattern, which will contribute to the over all character of the skate park, features a multitude of skateboarder sillouettes. Together, they create an optical resemblance to reflections on the surface of water.

**Project Name** Del Aire Park Community Building Expansion  
**Address** 12601 S. Isis Ave.  
Hawthorne, CA 90250  
**District** Second  
**Department** Parks and Recreation  
**CP Number** 77516 and 86421  
**Civic Art Budget** \$29,000



**Description** Artists David Burns, Matias Viegner and Austin Young of Fallen Fruit have been commissioned to engage the Del Aire community in art and food-centered activities that will generate a sense of shared ownership and result in a community garden around the newly renovated Del Aire Park Community Building.

**Project Name** East Rancho Dominguez Library  
**Address** 15305 S. Atlantic Ave.  
Compton, CA 90221  
**District** Second  
**Department** Public Library  
**CP Number** 77600  
**Civic Art Budget** \$45,000



**Description** Emerging public artist Louise Griffin designed a series of six unique, colored glass panels that will be integrated into the new library. Hanging 10 feet high in the lobby, each panel is a montage with layers of imagery including photographs of neighborhood trees, historic maps of the area and books. The artwork expresses the community's values of diversity and harmony.

**Project Name** Firestone Boulevard Median Fence  
**Address** Firestone Blvd. b/t Hooper and Compton  
Los Angeles, CA 90001  
**District** Second  
**Department** Public Works  
**CP Number** n/a  
**Civic Art Budget** \$14,000



**Description** Artist Lucy Blake-Elahi designed a median fence for a 1/2 mile length of Firestone Boulevard, between Hooper and Compton Avenue. The fence will meander in a ribbon-like form down Firestone Boulevard. The punch-out design features stylized imagery inspired by Florence-Firestone's history and community. This project is the Civic Art Program's first collaboration with the Department of Public Works Road Division.

**Project Name** Harbor-UCLA Refurbishment N24 Clinic Addition  
**Address** 1000 W. Carson St.  
Torrance, CA 90502  
**District** Second  
**Department** Health Services  
**CP Number** 77541  
**Civic Art Budget** \$8,000



**Description** Funds have been granted to LA BioMed, a nonprofit at the Harbor-UCLA Medical Center, to purchase artwork for the clinic's lobby and to design and implement a calming paint scheme for the pediatric patient examining rooms.

**Project Name** Lennox Library and Constituent Service Center

**Address** 4359 Lennox Blvd.  
Lennox, CA 90304

**District** Second

**Department** Public Library

**CP Number** 77605

**Civic Art Budget** \$60,000



**Description** Los Angeles-based artist team Kyungmi Shin and Todd Gray will create a sculpture/shade structure for the interior courtyard of the new Library and Constituent Service Center. After meeting with the community and leaving with a strong sense of the cohesion among Lennox residents, the artists were inspired to create a gathering place, a "Village Tree," where people can meet, rest, or read. The 13-foot-tall tree will be sculpted from mild steel, and coated in a tenemec paint system. The leaves represent palm, elm, banana and coconut trees; the cut-outs will cast shadows that will move and change throughout the day.

**Project Name** Martin Luther King, Jr. Center for Public Health

**Address** 1522 E. 120th St.  
Los Angeles, CA 90002

**District** Second

**Department** Public Health

**CP Number** 77177

**Civic Art Budget** \$140,000



**Description** Artist Cliff Garten designed "Elevations (1)," a handcrafted seven-by-seven-foot illuminated sculpture with a corresponding Venetian plaster wall that measures 12 feet wide by 22 feet high for the MLK Center for Public Health. To create the sculpture, the artist looped hundreds of strands of brushed aluminum wires through a metal armature. He also applied a white and black wall drawing using and stencil to mimic the wiry curves of the sculpture. In contrast to the precision of the lines, a distressed finish was chosen for the wall's surface. A metallic silver powder was added to the wall to create a silver sheen. The reflection of light on the surface illuminates the sculpture and enhances the visual interaction between the two elements. In addition, Garten also donated a series of 10 archival prints that are on permanent display in the facility.



**Project Name** Martin Luther King, Jr. Hospital Building  
**Address** 12021 Wilmington Ave.  
Los Angeles, CA 90059  
**District** Second  
**Department** Health Services  
**CP Number** 70947  
**Civic Art Budget** \$1,000,000



**Description** An artist will be commissioned to transform the main entrance to the MLK Medical Center with large-scale sculpture(s) in the entry roundabout. The selected artist may also choose to enhance the large expanses of glass windows and/or exterior canopies facing the entrance. In addition, the Arts Commission will commission and purchase a collection of two-dimensional artworks for the hospital interior. Artist Dan Corson has been commissioned to design a meditative healing garden adjacent to the new inpatient tower.

**Project Name** El Cariso Park Gymnasium  
**Address** 13100 Hubbard St.  
Sylmar, CA 91342  
**District** Third  
**Department** Parks and Recreation  
**CP Number** 69524  
**Civic Art Budget** \$112,500



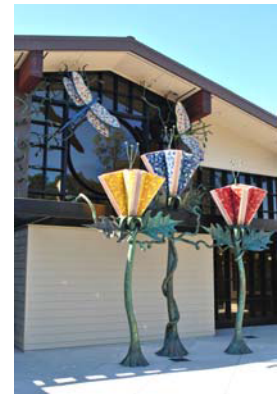
**Description** Inspired by the rich history of olive groves in Sylmar, artist Cliff Garten designed three illuminated sculptures of intricate, swirling olive branches to hang in the main lobby of the El Cariso Gymnasium. As light strikes the sculptures, the experience and spirit of the lobby will reference the canopy of an olive tree. Each sculpture, now in fabrication, is approximately six feet high and two feet in diameter and will be made from 1/16" bronze sheets.

**Project Name** Malibu Library  
**Address** 23519 Civic Center Way  
Malibu, CA 90265  
**District** Third  
**Department** Public Library  
**CP Number** 88944  
**Civic Art Budget** \$52,000



**Description** Commissioned artist Christine Nguyen will create a porcelain enamel mural measuring approximately 14 feet long by eight feet tall for the children's area at Malibu Library. Drawing from a mixture of real and imaginary images of underwater and mountain caves, Nguyen's design connects to the ecology and terrain of Malibu. The design inspires imagination and will invite audiences of all ages to develop their own interpretation of the abstracted flora and fauna of Malibu.

**Project Name** Topanga Library  
**Address** 122 N. Topanga Canyon Blvd.  
Topanga, CA 90290  
**District** Third  
**Department** Public Library  
**CP Number** 77484  
**Civic Art Budget** \$114,750



**Description** Four Topanga artists have been commissioned for projects including a large circular handmade tile mural depicting the flora and fauna of the canyon by Topanga Art Tile, artists Matt and Paul Doolin; two resin-coated colorfully painted sculptures for the children's area by artist Megan Rice; a mosaic tile "rug" at the library's main entrance by artist Jim Sullivan; a series of six steel and cast cement bug sconces installed along the interior walls by artist Norman Grochowski; and three larger than life steel flowers along with two large dragonflies, also by artist Norman Grochowski.



**Project Name** Hacienda Heights Community Center

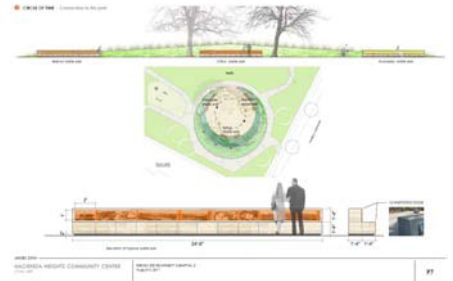
**Address** 1234 Valencia Ave.  
Hacienda Heights, CA 91745

**District** Fourth

**Department** Parks and Recreation

**CP Number** CDC

**Civic Art Budget** \$120,000



**Description** Los Angeles-based artist and landscape architect James Dinh designed an earthwork that encircles two existing linden trees on the site. The piece will feature a visual timeline of the Hacienda Heights community from the 1940s to the present, printed on steel enamel panels.

**Project Name** Helmsman - Marina del Rey Boathouse Refurbishment

**Address** 13650 Mindanao Way  
Marina del Rey, CA 90292

**District** Fourth

**Department** Beaches and Harbors

**CP Number** 88939

**Civic Art Budget** \$19,000



**Description** The civic art allocation for the Marina del Rey Boathouse Refurbishment is being used to restore the Helmsman statue at Burton W. Chace Park (adjacent to the Boathouse). Conservator Donna Williams has been hired to repair and clean the statue. The Helmsman statue by artist Carlo Romanelli stood in front of the Helms Bakery, which operated in Culver City from 1931-1969. In 1971, the Helmsman was donated to the County by the Helms family.

**Project Name** Rowland Heights Community Center

**Address** 18150 Pathfinder Rd.  
Rowland Heights, CA 91748

**District** Fourth

**Department** Parks and Recreation

**CP Number** CDC

**Civic Art Budget** \$95,000



**Description** A Request for Qualifications was issued to professional artists in November 2010 for a civic art commission opportunity at Rowland Heights Community Center. A total of fifty-two artists submitted applications for consideration. The Project Coordination Committee identified Kipp Kobayashi and the team of Jenna Didier and Oliver Hess as finalists. They will develop concept designs to inform final selection.

**Project Name** Whittier Area Recreation and Family Services Center

**Address** Telegraph Rd. and Valley View Ave.  
Whittier, CA 90604

**District** Fourth

**Department** Community and Senior Services

**CP Number** CDC

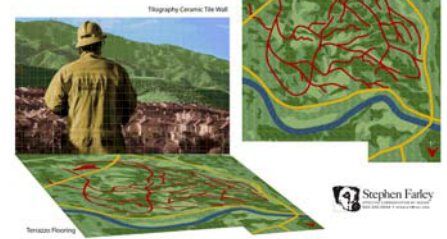
**Civic Art Budget** \$70,000



**Description** Los Angeles-based artist Susan Narduli will design an artwork for an exterior space currently called the Veterans Plaza or Freedom Garden. Her work will create an experiential environment, which can be experienced through sound, smell and/or touch. The project intent is not to create a traditional memorial but rather a space where the local community can gather and reflect. The center will be managed by the social service nonprofit, Helpline Youth Counseling.

**Project Name** Fire Station 150  
**Address** Golden Valley Rd., South of Hwy 14  
Santa Clarita, CA 91387  
**District** Fifth  
**Department** Fire  
**CP Number** 88936  
**Civic Art Budget** \$125,000

Public Art for Fire Station 150  
Final Design Proposal  
May 2009



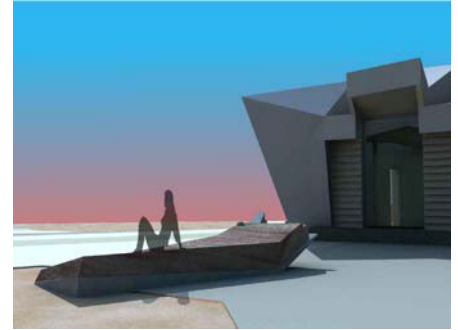
**Description** Steve Farley has designed a terrazzo floor and a tile mural for the lobby at Fire Station 150. The terrazzo floor will depict an aerial view of the terrain surrounding Fire Station 150, and the mural shows a heroic firefighter watching over the Santa Clarita hills. In addition, artist Garin Baker designed a painted mural for the day room that depicts firefighters in action responding to a brush fire.

**Project Name** Stephen Sorensen Park Phase III  
**Address** 16801 E. Ave. P  
Lake Los Angeles, CA 93591  
**District** Fifth  
**Department** Parks and Recreation  
**CP Number** 69276  
**Civic Art Budget** \$80,000



**Description** Artists Victor Henderson and Elizabeth Garrison have designed a hand-painted mural, approximately 9 feet high by 17 feet wide, for the interior wall of a new community room. Their work depicts many aspects of life in Lake Los Angeles, including a historic photograph of the lake. The artwork, currently under fabrication, will be accented with exterior glazed tiles that feature footprints of the local wildlife.

**Project Name** Vasquez Rocks Interpretive Center  
**Address** 10700 W. Escondido Canyon Rd.  
Acton Agua Dulce, CA 91390  
**District** Fifth  
**Department** Parks and Recreation  
**CP Number** 77092  
**Civic Art Budget** \$48,000



**Description** Artist team Jenna Didier and Oliver Hess have designed a sculpture to be constructed using a rammed earth technique for the Interpretive Center entry courtyard. The rammed earth sculpture will erode over 25 years to reveal a hidden sculpture of stacked and carved steel, reminiscent of Vasquez Rocks. The artist team plans to invite the community to participate in the installation of the artwork in the spring of 2012.

**Project Name** William S. Hart Park & Museum  
**Address** 24151 Newhall Ave.  
Newhall, CA 91321  
**District** Fifth  
**Department** Parks and Recreation  
**CP Number** 86877  
**Civic Art Budget** \$8,000



**Description** A free three-day summer workshop for students aged 10-17 to learn about theatre and filmmaking was held in the summer of 2011. Teaching artists from local organizations Canyon Theatre Guild and the CalArts Community Arts Partnership led the workshops for 19 youth who produced three short films. The workshop series will repeat and expand in 2012 with a funding source to be identified.

## Pending Future Projects

The following eligible capital projects have been identified for inclusion of a civic art component. The civic art scope of work for each project is yet to be determined. Implementation of each project will entail input from the CEO, County department and Supervisorial Office.

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<b>Project Name</b>	LAC+USC Medical Center HUB Clinic Renovation
<b>Address</b>	2010 Zonal Ave. Los Angeles, CA 90033
<b>Department</b>	Health Services

<b>Project Name</b>	Replacement Central Jail Plan
<b>Address</b>	441 Bauchet St. Los Angeles, CA 90012
<b>Department</b>	Sheriff

<b>Project Name</b>	San Jose Creek Nature Park
<b>Address</b>	21356 Avalon Blvd. La Puente, CA 90745
<b>Department</b>	Parks and Recreation

### Second District

<b>Project Name</b>	Carson Sheriff's Station
<b>Address</b>	21356 Avalon Blvd. Carson, CA 90745
<b>Department</b>	Sheriff

<b>Project Name</b>	Carson/Gardena Animal Shelter
<b>Address</b>	216 W. Victoria St. Gardena, CA 90248
<b>Department</b>	Animal Care and Control

**Project Name** Florence Avenue Parking Lot  
**Address** 1616 E. Florence Ave.  
Los Angeles, CA 90001

**Department** Public Library

**Project Name** Hubert H. Humphrey Urgent Care Center Expansion  
**Address** 5850 S. Main St.  
Los Angeles, CA 90003

**Department** Health Services

**Project Name** Martin Luther King, Jr. Fitness Garden  
**Address** 1522 E. 120th St.  
Los Angeles, CA 90002

**Department** Parks and Recreation

**Third District**

**Project Name** El Cariso Park General Improvements  
**Address** 13100 Hubbard St.  
Sylmar, CA 91342

**Department** Parks and Recreation

**Project Name** Fire Station 71  
**Address** 28722 W. Pacific Coast Hwy.  
Malibu, CA 90265

**Department** Fire

**Project Name** Monroe Community Wellness Center  
**Address** 9229 Haskell Ave.  
North Hills, CA 91343

**Department** Health Services

**Project Name** San Fernando High Teen Health Center  
**Address** 11133 O'Melveny Ave.  
San Fernando, CA 91340

**Department** Health Services

**Fourth District**

**Project Name** Diamond Bar Library  
**Address** 1061 S. Grand Ave.  
Diamond Bar, CA 91765

**Department** Public Library

**Project Name** Dockweiler Beach  
**Address** 12001 Vista del Mar  
Playa Del Rey, CA 90293

**Department** Beaches and Harbors

**Project Name** Manhattan Beach Library  
**Address** 1320 Highland Ave.  
Manhattan Beach, CA 90266

**Department** Public Library

**Project Name** Rancho Los Amigos North Campus Consolidation  
**Address** 7601 E. Imperial Hwy.  
Downey, CA 90242

**Department** Health Services

## **Fifth District**

**Project Name** Arcadia Park Pool and Pool Building Renovation  
**Address** 405 S. Santa Anita Ave.  
Arcadia, CA 91006

**Department** Parks and Recreation

**Project Name** Castaic Sports Complex Pool  
**Address** 31230 Castaic Rd.  
Castaic, CA 91384

**Department** Parks and Recreation

**Project Name** Fire Station 128  
**Address** 28450 Whites Canyon Rd.  
Santa Clarita, CA 91351

**Department** Fire

**Project Name** Fire Station 132  
**Address** 29310 Sand Canyon Rd.  
Santa Clarita, CA 91387

**Department** Fire

**Project Name** High Desert Multi-Service Ambulatory Care Center  
**Address** Avenue I, b/t 3rd St. E. and 5th St. E.  
Lancaster, CA 93535

**Department** Health Services

**Project Name** Pitchess Detention Center  
**Address** 29320 The Old Road  
Castaic, CA 91384

**Department** Sheriff



## Engaging Local Artists

Los Angeles County is home to one of the greatest concentrations of artists in the nation. The professional skill, expertise and creative vision of individual artists are central to the success of the Civic Art Program. The Civic Art Program provides opportunities for artists to engage communities and create distinctive work that serves as community landmarks and establishes a legacy for current and future generations of Los Angeles County residents.

Local artists commissioned through the Civic Art Program over the past year include Mapache City Projects (Sandra de la Loza and Arturo Romo), Lucy Blake-Elahi, James Dinh, Louise Griffin, Mara Lonner, Rebeca Méndez, Christine Nguyen and Shin Gray Studios (Kyungmi Shin and Todd Gray).

Eight of these artists are profiled below.

### Sandra de la Loza and Arturo Romo, Eastern Avenue Hill

Previous work of Sandra de la Loza and Arturo Ernesto Romo-Santillano, long time studio mates and collaborators, explores the meaning of place and culture through clever reinterpretations of historic sites. Their primarily conceptual repertoire will expand with their first ever civic art commission for the Eastern Avenue Hill. The project is a complex slope stabilization and landscaping project that will result in a landmark sculpture for a residential

community in East LA. With roots in the neighborhood, both artists bring an authentic perspective to the project and community engagement. De la Loza and Romo are featured in exhibitions during “Pacific Standard Time” in 2011-12: de la Loza in a solo show, *Mural Remix: Chicano Muralism and the Social Sublime* at the Los Angeles County Museum of Art; and Romo in *Mapping Another L.A.: The Chicano Art Movement* at the UCLA Fowler Museum.



### Jenna Didier and Oliver Hess, Vasquez Rocks Interpretive Center



Jenna Oliver playing with an interactive water artwork while perched on a temporary installation at Materials & Applications

Oliver Hess and Jenna Didier, principals of DidierHess, fuse their passion for art and public life and their intrigue with the built environment and infrastructure in their public art practice. They strive to connect a community to the web of relationships that sustains it by making that pulse visible. The artwork designed for the new visitor center at Vasquez Rocks Park employs innovative materials that accentuate natural phenomena. Didier and Hess are also directors of Materials & Applications, a non-profit research center that functions as an exhibition space and community hub for the interface between architecture, art and the public at large.

**James Dinh, Hacienda Heights Community Center**

Soon after participating in the artist technical assistance workshops supported by the Arts Commission, James Dinh was awarded his first public art commission for the Hacienda Heights Community Center. The artist's design practice, Studi Dinh, focuses on projects that span scales, media and disciplines from site-specific environmental installations to graphic design. Prior to receiving his Master of Landscape Architecture from the University of California, Berkeley, Dinh studied biology and public health. His interdisciplinary approach is one of a growing number of cross-over artists whose diverse education and design background informs their artwork.

**Christine Nguyen, Malibu Library**

For the first time in 2010-11, the Civic Art Program released a series of artist calls limited to LA-based artists with no previous experience in public art. The calls sought to cultivate new artistic talent like Christine Nguyen. She has a developed studio art practice and exhibits internationally, however has never designed a permanent public artwork. Her background in mixed media, photography and drawing, rich in aquatic imagery, informed the design of a vibrant, large-scale porcelain enamel mural for the new Malibu Library. This valuable public art experience lays the foundation for her career in the field and positions her to receive additional commissions regionally as well as nationally. Nguyen received her BFA from California State University, Long Beach and MFA from University of California, Irvine.

**Kyungmi Shin and Todd Gray, Lennox Library and Constituent Service Center**

Based just blocks north of the Lennox neighborhood in Inglewood, Kyungmi Shin and Todd Gray, husband and wife team of Shin Gray Studio, were a fitting selection to create artwork for the new Lennox Library and Constituent Service Center. Their layered and colorful mixed-media work compliments the vibrant visual culture of Lennox. Shin received her MFA from University of California at Berkeley and Gray earned his MFA from California Institute for the Arts. Both artists are educators and intend to share their design and art-making process with Lennox youth through artist-led workshops while their artwork is under fabrication.



### Technical Assistance and Outreach

According to the 2010 Otis Creative Economy Report, Los Angeles County hosts the largest pool of artists of any metro in the nation and is the top attractor of artists. The Civic Art Program is committed to engaging new and emerging artists in the field of public art by increasing awareness and providing technical assistance.

- Staff held quarterly Open Office Hours sessions to allow artists to ask questions and get feedback in an informal setting and to learn about the Civic Art Program and resources available for public art professionals.

In June, Richard Turner, seasoned public artist and curator of the Public Art Network's 2011 Year in Review, presented notable projects recognized by the Public Art Network and led a discussion about current trends in public art today.

- Staff gave four presentations and artist portfolio review opportunities in San Pedro, South LA, Canoga Park and downtown Los Angeles in collaboration with the public art programs of Los Angeles County Metro, the Community Redevelopment Agency of Los Angeles and the LA City Department of Cultural Affairs. These engagements introduced artists to the different public art programs and their distinct processes for commissioning artists.

- Civic Art Program staff led the first collaborative Public Art Coalition of Southern California (PACSoCal) initiative which provided an in-depth artist technical assistance workshop series called "MAKING IT PUBLIC: Workshops on Public Art Practice for Artists" for over 30 LA-based artists. Three sessions at various sites throughout Los Angeles County offered comprehensive training in public art. Topics included *How to Make the Leap from Studio Practice to Public Art*, lead by artist Meeson Pae Yang, *Community Engagement and Public Practice* led by Consuelo Velasco of the Otis Public Practice program, and the *Business of Art* lead by Karen Atkinson of Get Your Sh\*t Together and art attorney Sarah Conley Odenkirk. Due to popular demand, PACSoCal is currently exploring a return of this program and/or the creation of a technical assistance program for municipal administrators and leaders that oversee public art projects.



Consuelo Velasco presents new approaches to community engagement a MAKING IT PUBLIC workshop held at the OTIS Graduate Public Practice Studio at 18<sup>th</sup> Street Art Complex in Santa Monica.



### **Civic Art Program Stakeholders and Community Participation**

Close coordination and engagement with stakeholders and community members is standard practice in Civic Art Program efforts.

#### **Civic Art Program Stakeholders**

During Fiscal Year 2010-11, the Civic Art Program collaborated with twelve different County departments and worked in communities in each Supervisorial District. Other stakeholders who played a significant role in the Civic Art Program included the CEO Capital Projects staff, the Department of Public Works and the Community Development Commission. External partners included the City of Pico Rivera, Friends of the Pico Rivera Library, the City of Malibu, the Del Aire Neighborhood Association, Friends of the Topanga Library, California Institute for the Arts, Community Arts Partnership, Canyon Theatre Guild, LA Commons, City of Santa Clarita Arts Commission, and the Lennox Community Coordinating Council. Community members also play a role in the selection, design, development and fabrication of civic art projects.

Civic Art Program staff has observed that projects whose commissioned artists engage the local community in conversation and art-making garner support and sense of ownership. The artist's engagement generates a strong sense of community pride that ensures the long-term stewardship of the artwork.

Below are some examples of how commissioned artists have reached out to their communities.

#### **Artist-led community workshop in East Rancho Dominguez**

On March 5, commissioned artist Louise Griffin led an art-making workshop in silk-screening and embellishing recycled book tote bags. Youth from East Rancho Dominguez created designs that explore the current and future library. This event offered the artist an opportunity to meet and dialogue with more than 50 community participants about their vision for artwork in their new library. Since this meeting, Griffin has proposed a concept design that contemplates both the neighborhood's history and the library itself. The artwork will be a colorful collage of these visual elements on glass panels hung 10 feet high.



### **Artist-led community presentation at Lennox Library**

In May, Kyungmi Shin and Todd Gray, commissioned artists for the new Lennox Library and Constituent Service Center, presented their public and studio artwork to a full library of community members. After discussing their art practice, the artists led a conversation about Lennox history, future and identity. The lively group openly expressed their positive feelings for arts and culture, family, safety and diversity. Shin and Gray left with rich feedback that informed their design of a sculptural “Village Tree” for the courtyard of the new facility.



### **Staff Community Engagement Training**

Not only is an artist's ability to connect with community now a common criteria for artist selection, but the Civic Art Program seeks to grow its understanding of civic engagement techniques so that staff may guide commissioned artists more effectively in outreach and engagement activities.

In May, Civic Art Program staff attended a community outreach training session led by Karen Mack, Executive Director, and Beth Peterson, Community Arts Program Director, for LA Commons at Avenue 50 Studio in Highland Park. The day's training focused on ways to deepen civic engagement through planning and analysis, stakeholder identification and development, and, through increased community participation in the development, design and celebration of public art.

### **National Endowment for the Arts Creative Place-making Grant**

In light of the program's growing interest in working hand-in-hand with community to reimagine and strengthen neighborhoods through art, the Arts Commission was awarded a \$100,000 *Our Town* grant to support artistic and cultural development in the unincorporated South Los Angeles neighborhood of Willowbrook.

The project, *Project Willowbrook: Cultivating a Healthy Community through Arts and Culture*, will capitalize on the County's over \$600 million investment in health and infrastructure improvements in Willowbrook, including the execution of a comprehensive planning effort for the new Martin Luther King Jr. Medical Campus and a plan to improve the linkages between the community and the Rosa Parks Metro Station. The Civic Art Program also received its first one million dollar civic art allocation for the MLK Hospital site, which will fund a monumental sculpture for the hospital's entrance that honors the spirit of Martin Luther King, Jr., an artist designed healing garden and interior art installations.

Primary project partner, community arts organization LA Commons, will assist Arts Commission staff in the identification of artists, cultural assets and resources unique to Willowbrook and adjacent communities. In collaboration with key stakeholders, the two organizations will use this information to support local arts resources and integrate art and culture into overall community development.

*Our Town* is a new leadership initiative through the National Endowment for the Arts focused on creative place-making projects. In creative place-making, partners from both public and private sectors come together to strategically shape the physical and social character of a neighborhood, town, city, or region around arts and cultural activities.

More information can be found here:

<http://arts.gov/national/ourtown/grantee.php?id=033>



*MLK Hospital, Los Angeles Times, March 23, 1975*

### **County Collection Management**

The Civic Art Program has continued to preserve, document and provide access to the County's growing collection of artwork. During Fiscal Year 2010-11, 6 civic artworks were accessioned into the County Collection and added to the Arts Commission Web site.

Significant advancements in documentation and public accessibility to the civic art collection have been made.

- The collection has been uploaded to the Western State Arts Federation (WESTAF) national database and Web site, which includes a mobile map of public artworks nationwide. This robust Web site will soon have ability to serve as a collection management system for the program. <http://www.publicartarchive.org/>
- A pilot evaluation project was conducted in spring 2010 to develop a process for soliciting community feedback regarding civic art projects completed since 2007. The goal of the evaluation was to obtain qualitative and quantitative data to ensure that the public receives civic art of the highest caliber. The evaluation focused on six artworks and their audiences. The survey instruments measured how a project had or had not achieved the program's guiding principles: high quality, innovation, site-specificity, civic engagement and transformation. The process revealed that the program succeeds in providing access to new and meaningful artistic experiences for LA County residents and that engagement and education targeting both community and staff are key to a project's long term success.
- With assistance from County Counsel, a gifts and loans agreement was formalized. This agreement guides the process of accepting new artworks into the County Collection and ensures clear communication between artist, donor and the County regarding intellectual property rights, display and maintenance.

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